

MSHA's Accident Prevention Program Safety Idea



Bad Battery Box Insulation

Category: Electrical, Mobile Equipment & Section Face Equipment

Mine Type: All Underground Mines

Sagging equipment battery compartment covers caused by loading from external forces may be an indication that damage to the internal insulation and /or electrical components

has occurred. Sagging battery covers and badly worn insulation can result in arcs and sparks that may cause a fire or shock. Even though the battery compartment of certain diesel or electrical powered equipment must be afforded fire protection by an automatic fixed fire suppression system, the associated risk of fire or shock can be minimized by periodically examining the insulation in the battery compartment. Extraneous materials and supplies should not be stored on the battery box.

A sagging battery compartment cover should be replaced or repaired if its insulating lining is contacting components in the battery compartment. Conductor insulation, fuse holders and connectors as well as the linings of battery compartment walls and cover should be examined and replaced or repaired if wear or abrasion is noted.

If you have an idea you would like to pass on, you can e-mail it to MinersTips@msha.gov.

If your Miner's tip is selected, you will receive credit in this space.

Remember "SAFET' IS A VALUE" you can live with.

Issued: 02/25/2004
Tag # AP2003-S094